## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTER DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

| DAVID WEAVER, JASON TETIDRICK, JOSEPH               | )          |     |
|---|------------|-----|
| ECCARDT, DANIEL J. SINCLAIR, DON BROWN              | ,)         |     |
| and TIM JOST, in their representative capacities as | )          |     |
| Trustees of the District No. 9, International       | )          |     |
| Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers     | )          |     |
| Pension Trust, DISTRICT NO. 9 INTERNATIONAL         | <i>.</i> ) |     |
| ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS AND                       | )          |     |
| AEROSPACE WORKERS PENSION TRUST,                    | )          |     |
|   | ) Case N   | lo. |
|   | )          |     |
| Plaintiffs,   | )          |     |
|   | )          |     |
| VS.   | )          |     |
|   | )          |     |
| LOUGHBOROUGH AUTO BODY, INC.,                       | )          |     |
| a Missouri corporation,                             | )          |     |
|   | )          |     |
| Defendant.  | )          |     |
|   |            |     |

## **COMPLAINT**

Come now plaintiffs, by and through their attorneys, and for their cause of action against defendants state:

- 1. Jurisdiction of this cause of action and the parties to it is conferred upon this Court by Sections 502(e)(1) and (f) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), 29 U.S.C. §§1132(e)(1) and (f) and by Section 4301 of the Multiemployer Pension Plan Amendments Act of 1980 ("MPPAA"), 29 U.S.C. §1451. Venue in this Court is appropriate by virtue of Section 502(e)(2) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §1132(e)(2) and Section 4301(d) of MPPAA, 29 U.S.C. §1451(d).
- 2. Plaintiff District No. 9, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Pension Trust ("Pension Trust"), is an employee benefit plan within the meaning of Sections 3(1), (3), 502 and 515 of ERISA, as amended 29 U.S.C. §§1002(1), (3), 1132 and 1145.

The Pension Trust is administered from offices located at 12365 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, Missouri 63044.

- 3. Plaintiffs David Weaver, Jason Tetidrick, Joseph Eccardt, Daniel J. Sinclair, Don Brown and Tim Jost are the duly designated and acting Trustees of the Pension Trust, and are fiduciaries within the meaning of Sections 3(21)(A) and 502 of ERISA, as amended, 29 U.S.C. §§1002 (21) (A) and 1132.
- 4. Defendant Loughborough Auto Body, Inc. ("Loughborough") is a Missouri corporation, and has at all material times been an "employer in an industry affecting commerce" as defined in Sections 3(5), (11), (12), and 515 of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §§1002(5), (11), (12) and 1145, and Sections 2(2), (6) and (7) of the Labor Management Relations Act of 1947 ("LMRA"), 29 U.S.C. §§152(2), (6) and (7).
- 5. Defendant Loughborough was at all times relevant party to a collective bargaining agreement with District No. 9 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers which required defendant Loughborough to contribute to the Pension Trust.
- 6. Defendant Loughborough experienced a withdrawal from the Pension Trust during the 2017 plan year.
- 7. The Pension Trust's actuarial consultants computed that Loughborough had withdrawal liability of \$193,416.00.
- 8. On December 19, 2017, the Pension Trust issued a withdrawal liability assessment to defendant Loughborough. Pursuant to the assessment, defendant was required to either pay the assessed withdrawal liability in a lump sum by February 1, 2018, or to make monthly payments of \$1,270.00 beginning February 1, 2018.

- 9. Defendant failed to either pay the full amount of the assessment or make the initial monthly payment by February 1, 2018.
- 10. The MPPAA at 29 U.S.C. §1399(b)(2)(A) provides that no later than 90 days after the employer receives notice of an assessment of withdrawal liability, the employer may ask the plan to review any specific matter related to the employer's withdrawal liability.
- 11. Defendant Loughborough failed to ask the Pension Trust to review its withdrawal liability assessment.
- 12. The MPPAA at 29 U.S.C. §1401(a)(1) allows an employer to request arbitration of disputes if the employer has asked the plan to review its withdrawal liability assessment.
- 13. The MPPAA provides at 29 U.S.C. §1401(b)(1) that if no arbitration proceeding has been initiated, the amounts demanded by the plan shall be due and owing and the plan may bring an action for collection.
- 14. The MPPAA provides at 29 U.S.C. §1399(c)(1)(5)(A) that an uncured default in installment payments results in the entire assessed amount being due and owing.
  - 15. Defendant Loughborough made eighteen (18) payments of \$1,270.00.
  - 16. Defendant Loughborough has not made a payment for any period since July 2019.
- 17. Plaintiffs by letters dated September 30, 2019 and January 29, 2020 informed defendant that it was in default in its withdrawal liability payments.
  - 18. Defendant Loughborough failed to cure its default.
- 19. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1399, the entire withdrawal liability amount of \$193,416 less the payments made by defendant Loughborough, is now due and owing.
- 20. Pursuant to the terms of the Pension Trust and MPPAA, plaintiffs are entitled to liquidated damages, interest and an award of their attorneys' fees and court costs.

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs pray this Court for the following relief on Count I of their Complaint:

- 1. A judgment against defendant Loughborough for the withdrawal liability assessment of \$193,416.00, minus the monthly payments made by defendant.
  - 2. Judgment for interest and liquidated damages.
  - 3. An award of plaintiffs' attorneys' fees and court costs.

Respectfully submitted,

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/s/ Greg A. Campbell
GREG A. CAMPBELL, #35381MO
Attorney for Plaintiffs

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

A copy of the foregoing has been served by certified mail, return receipt requested to the Secretary of Labor, United States Department of Labor, P. O. Box 1914, Washington, DC 20013 and to the Secretary of Treasury, United States Treasury, 15<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20220, on May \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

| /s/ | Greg | A. Ca | ampbell |  |
|-----|------|-------|---------|--|
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